



Ø BEAT

COLO. SPRINGS,
COLORADO

JULY 1968

* PPRAA TO MEET AT NAVAL *
* RESERVE CENTER JULY 10 *
* * *

* The July 10 PPRAA meeting will *
* be held at the U. S. Naval Reserve *
* Training Center, Lake and Logan *
* Streets---at the south end of Prospect *
* Lake, instead of at the usual meeting *
* place at the Red Cross Center. *
* * *

* In addition to the usual business *
* meeting, the evening's program will *
* include a tour of the Naval Reserve *
* training facility, including the com- *
* munications setup and a talk by Comdr *
* Roden, commanding officer of the *
* Center; on what the center would like *
* to do for, and in cooperation with, the *
* the PPRAA, and why. *
* * *

* As usual, the meeting will begin *
* at 8 P. M. *
* * *

* This will be a very important *
* meeting, since a number of matters *
* affecting the future activities of the *
* PPRAA will be discussed, so it is *
* hoped that as many members as pos- *
* sible will be in attendance. *
* * *

1968 FIELD DAY PARTICIPATION
PROVES GREULING, BUT VERY
SUCCESSFUL OPERATION

By Rosemarie Lewis, WAØMNL

At 15 minutes to 1 p. m., Saturday
June 22, in memorial Park, site of the
1968 Field Day, all was calm. About 30
cars and people were around, just stand-
ing and waiting for the signal from George,
WØGCH, to begin setting up.

At 1900Z all heck broke loose. In-
stead of the usual tents to house the rigs,
this year a panel truck, a van and a trailer
were used. A tent was set up for sleeping
and another one for food.

With setup time included in the op-
erating time this year, verticals were
quickly erected and an operator put on
while the rest of the gang began to assem-
ble beams. George made the first contact
on CW---because it was Wally, KØWMD,
it was not a valid contact for the contest.
Wally gave George a 995 RST and blew the
rig.

The first contact was at 1907Z but
there was almost an hour before the next
was made from that station---it wasn't the

(Continued on Page Three)

ZERO BEAT

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The PPRAA meets the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 8 p. m. All radio amateurs and other interested persons are invited.

COPY DEADLINE for the AUGUST ZERO BEAT will be July 31.

EDITORIAL

A SUCCESSFUL FIELD DAY

One of the rotors didn't want to rotate, at times the generators didn't want to properly "generate"--but there was nothing faulty about the way the operators operated during the 27 hour Field Day participation by members of the PPRAA.

Thereported "more than a thousand contacts" during the period by the three operating positions is an indication of the efforts of the agile "fist" of EC George Kowalski, WØGCH, and others who handled the "bug" at the CW position, and the phone operation by Max Main WØBDH, Harlan Talley, WAØJCS, John Summers (Sr. and Jr.) WAØHHN and WAØHHO, and many others who sat in at the two phone positions.

The whole operation showed the result of some excellent planning by George, GCH--especially the use of the trailer and vans furnished by WAØJCS and Jerry Bishop, WØICQ, which obviated the setting up of tents for the operating positions.

We are sure that the expressed "thanks" of George "to those persons who operated during the long period and the many persons who furnished equipment, cable, wire, antennas," are matched by other members of the PPRAA for a performance which showed that the members still have that same desire for "top participation and performance" which made the PPRAA sponsorship of the Rocky Mountain

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Max Main, WØBDH
Harold Combs, WAØPNR
Ed Pompea, KØZPG

-0-

ARRL convention here such a success in 1966.

And we are sure the "early morning operators" would want a special thanks expressed to Rosie Lewis and Max Main for the hotcakes and other stomach-filling "breakfast goodies" early Sunday morning.

Our congratulations and thanks to all who participated in any way to make this a very successful Field Day 1968!!

-0-

Since the 1968 Rocky Mountain Division convention took place the weekend after Zero Beat had to be at the printer, we are unable to report anything about the goings on in this issue.

If it hoped, however, that Rosie and others who attend will bring back some of the news of the convention for those of us not able to attend.

... 202

Our thanks to the Colorado Springs newspapers for the excellent placement of the stories regarding Field Day--the back page of Thursday's Gazette Telegraph and the front page, 2d section of the Free Press.

Many of the visitors stated they learned of the Field Day activities by reading about the affair in the papers.

And speaking of visiting hams, one was so interested in our activities he decided to join the PPRAA---John T. Ester KØOLJ, at Fort Carson with Hq. Company, 2d Battalion, 137th Infantry, 69th Brigade.

---Frank, WØHWH

FIELD DAY ACTIVITIES

(Continued from Page One)

rig but the voltage. But other stations got on real fast and things began to hum--- Well, not hum--more like creak and groan.

The generators wouldn't generate, the rotors wouldn't rotate, and the verticals and ground planes proved almost as good as the beams.

Stations were located in the trailer of GCH, George, the panel truck of WØICQ, Jerry, and the van of WAØJCS, Harlan. A tower was even put up to support a beam.

The speed and spirit shown was remarkable. Many an eyeball QSO was enjoyed, a family-type supper hit the spot and many who came to visit the setup Saturday evening stayed until after dark.

Midnite Saturday found a group looking for a gas hose. Sunday found the same group looking for a generator that would work, a gas can hose, a set of car keys, a trunk key, and a six year old boy. The boy was located--he'd just gone over the hill to try to get a DX chipmunk.

Sunday morning the stove ran out of gas before we could get all the pancakes cooked. We could plug in the electric skillet by unplugging the coffee pot, so it was either half-cooked pancakes and cold coffee or no pancakes and warm coffee.

Things really weren't that bad after a struggle to serve hotcakes, sausage and eggs to the operators (at 5 p. m.). Someone showed up from home with the most deelyish pan of hot hotcakes. So we all ate again.

I tell you it's livin' to eat a breakfast out of doors in the cool air after being up most of the night operating. Of course if you are not awake, it can prove a little rough to balance a coffee cup and a paper plate full of meat, eggs, hotcakes and sticky syrup.

Sunday was a hot, hot day with more generator trouble---one kicked out completely. By Sunday afternoon, with the temperature over 90 degrees, we were

still looking for the hose, keys, etc., but most important, more log sheets. More than 1,000 contacts were made and everyone agreed it was a FB Field Day.

During the Field Day operations, more than 150 persons visited the site.

Following the Field Day shutdown at 4 p. m. checkins were heard on the 2 meter AREC net because of the forest fire which burned over 300 acres on Rampart Range near Manitou Springs and which was very plainly visible from the Field Day site.

P. S. The generator trouble could not be blamed on the missing gas can hose, a makeshift funnel was made from a plastic bleach jug.

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DIGEST OF ARRL BULLETINS

Summer travellers wishing to visit ARRL Headquarters and the Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will find the building open to visitors Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 4 EDST, without appointment. By writing and arranging for a tour, other times can be made available. Printed directions to ARRL are available, without charge, by sending a self addressed stamped envelope to ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, Conn. 06111.

-arrrl-

Two deletions have been made to the ARRL Countries List for DXers--VS-9H, Kuria Muria and ZC6 Palestine. Contacts made with Kuria Muria Nov. 30, 1967 and after will be considered the same as contacts with the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman. The ZC6 Palestine listing, comprised of the UN Truce Area bordering on Isreal no longer exists.

-arrrl-

The special authorization for third party traffic between DL4Q/DL5Q stations and those in the United States announced in IARU News, July QST has been overruled by higher authority. No third party traffic is permitted to any station in Germany now. Disregard past information.

ROSIE'S REPORTINGS

By Rosemarie Lewis, WAØMNL

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Quite a few members are planning to attend the Rocky Mountain ARRL convention in Cheyenne.

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"Nip" Nepple, W7JMQ, in Arizona, is putting together a Heathkit 101 transceiver.

-rr-

Bill, WAØPHI, got his general class ticket a while back . . . and WNØSIZ, Steve Parker, took the examination and his novice ticket hasn't been returned so it sounds as though he made it also.

-rr-

John Summers, WAØHHN, our esteemed president, passed his Advanced exam.

-rr-

I am very, very sorry that John and Bob Marek, WAØEJI and WAØKGZ, were omitted from the recent list of members of the PPRAA. They are and always have been active members and rank in the top of the class as outstanding members. The Mareks live at 2825 Pennsylvania Ave. and fone is 634-6263. (Forgive me, gentlemen--the groom's mother isn't back to normal yet--and even normal's bad enough)

-rr-

Judy Taylor, a blind girl, once had her novice and would like to get her general. Could some one give her a little special tutoring or perhaps a ride to the code/theory classes? She lives at 2010 Eagle View Drive. - fone 473-6991.

-rr-

Frank Craw, WØ-Hard Working Ham, got his new car and W-O-W!! No, it wasn't Frank who lost his car keys at Memorial Park on Field Day.

-rr-

Don't forget the communications for the Pikes Peak Marathon August 4. This is the foot race to the clouds. The largest number ever registered will be starting to test their endurance on the mountain at 7

o'clock that morning.

-rr-

Better mark August 18 on your calendar. That's the date of the annual PPR-AA picnic--more in the next issue of Zero Beat.

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Michael Payne, WØLVJ/MM, is out of the hospital and back on his ship, the U. S. S. Ticonderoga. He is back on duty, although his foot is still in a cast.

-rr-

John Summers Jr., WAØHHO, has been spending a 30-day leave in Colorado Springs after duty with the U. S. Navy at Treasure Island in San Francisco. He is expecting an assignment to the communications center in Saigon.

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Annabell Meack, KØWZN and OM, Elden, acquired a new son-in-law when their daughter Charlene, WAØLDU, married Mike O'Del. Charline has a contract to teach at Littleton, Colo.

-rr-

A male named Rodgers from Toledo, Ohio, won the Mustang and mobile rig at the RL/YL convention in Denver. The convention was a huge success and those attending enjoyed a tour of the Colorado Springs area. At the Air Force Academy they were escorted by members of the Cadet Radio Club, KØMIC. Escorts were Alan Borg, Breck Cassidy (W9TGR), John Banbury (WB4HPG) and Ray Thompson Jr. (WA8WEJ).

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The Colorado YL picnic will be held at the Town Hall in Palmer Lake July 13 at 12 noon. Bring pot luck and your own table service and your children if you wish to. A delightful program is planned, as well as the chance to eyelash the other gals.

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WAØCND, Laurel (Bonnie) Bondurant, and XYL are making Seaside, Oregon, their new QTH.

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FOR SALE--National NC300 receiver. Contact Steve Parker, WNØSIZ, 634-0325.

TECHNICAL AND OPERATING DATA FROM OTHER CLUB PAPERS

From the Colo/Wyoming MARS Newsletter)

Many modern transceivers include a meter which may be referred to as an output meter, relative power meter or similar designation. Can this meter be used for adjusting the transmitter controls for maximum output? YES.

Is a higher reading on this meter as indication of a properly tuned antenna? ABSOLUTELY NO.

Odd as it may seem, the relative output meter will read less and less as the antenna is tuned or pruned to optimum. Why is this? These meters are usually calibrated R.F. voltmeters that read the RF volts at the antenna connector. The antenna always presents its lowest impedance at resonance, i.e. non-reactive. Consequently, the relative power meter or R.F. voltmeter will be measuring R.F. voltage across the minimum impedance when the antenna is correct.

As you move up and down the band either side of the frequency for which the antenna is resonant, you will find the relative output meter minimum at the point where you actually are radiating best. Don't be fooled by high readings on the relative power meter. It may be used for tuning the transmitter for maximum output and as a relative indication of whether the transmitter and antenna are still like they were yesterday on a given frequency.

-o-o-o-o-o-

(From "Collector and Emitter" Aeronautical Center Radio Club, Oklahoma City, Okla.)

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, California, has announced the development of a solid-state device having many of the characteristics of a triode vacuum tube. Of course the FET acts much like a tube but more like a pentode than a triode. This new device, which is not in production as yet, has a number of advantages over the FET. For one, it'll work with over 100 volts on its elements,

(these are called "emitter," "gate" and "collector"). The gate controls the space-charge current, unlike the FET, in which the gate controls the ohmic resistance (or channel width.) Like the insulated-gate FET, the new device operates by means of a capacitive charge between the gate and the controlled flow.

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(From the Denver Radio Club "The Round Table.")

J. A. Gunn of IBM has recently patented a new device, hailed as important as the transistor.

It is a piece of semi-conducting material in which spontaneous variations of the internal electric field and of the material's electrical conductance occur when the applied voltage exceeds a given minimum. This can be used to generate microwaves.

This seems to open the way to a simple and reliable way to do that which was costly and had other drawbacks. Portable radar and other items that use frequencies in the GHz region may now be small also. WAØGFI.

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(And from the Central California Radio Council's "Circle" comes this decidedly non-technical bit of humor)

It seems that the wife of a W6 was driving his car, equipped with ham license plates, downtown doing some shopping.

As she was parking, another amateur drove by and shouted "Are you on 2 meters?"

Misinterpreting the question, she angrily replied "If you think I am, I'll pull up so you can use one of them."

-o-o-o-o-o-

* Rudyard Kipling was said to be *
 * getting about five shillings (70¢) for *
 * every word he wrote, so a sarcastic *
 * acquaintance wrote to him: *
 * "I enclose five shillings. Please *
 * send me one of your words." *
 * Kipling did. He wrote: "Thanks." *

(From the ARRL Director's Letter No. 1299)

Effective July 2 (GMT, so that it is really the evening of July 1), WIAW will transmit an extra ten minutes each of 20- and 25-w.p.m. code material during the 0130 GMT practice periods. The service is, of course, for Extra Class aspirants, and is in response to direct requests from members.

-arri-

Three amateurs from Kentucky have

been indicted, by a federal grand jury in Bowling Green, for the transmission of indecent, obscene or profane language. I understand they are currently out on bail; that there will be three separate trials along about October (unless there is a plea of guilty). This action was taken by the Department of Justice based on FCC monitoring reports. Thus, while the wheels of discipline move slowly, the Commission is indeed doing its best to keep up with the extensive enforcement problem.

Don't forget that the July 10 meeting will be at the Naval Reserve Center!!!

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